

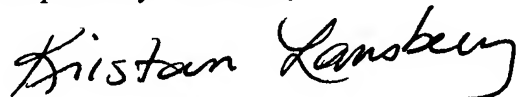
REMARKS

By way of the present amendment, the specification has been amended to indicate the relationship of the present application to the priority documents. Claims 1-7 as annexed to the International Preliminary Report on Patentability are canceled without prejudice and claims 8-20 are newly added. As such, claims 8-20 are pending after entry of the present amendment. Support for the new claims may be found in the original figures, original claims, and in the specification. No new matter is introduced by the foregoing amendment, and its entry is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding objection and rejections of the claims, and to pass this application to issue. The Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at (202) 942-5186 should any additional information be necessary for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



David R. Marsh (Reg. No. 41,408)

Kristan L. Lansbery (Reg. No. 53,183)

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ARNOLD & PORTER LLP
555 12th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004
(202) 942-5000 telephone
(202) 942-5999 facsimile